



Sierra National Forest
1600 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93611

ASPEN FIRE INFORMATION

Update #25

Release for Tuesday, August 6, 2013/Time: 7:00 AM

Incident Statics

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------|
| Acres Burned: | 21,381 | Structures Threatened: | 3 |
| Containment: | 75% | Structures Damaged: | 0 |
| Fire Start Date: | 7/22/2013 | Injuries: | 3 |
| Fire Cause: | Lightning | Total Personnel: | 1,673 |
| Cost to date: | \$23.4 million | | |

Summary

- The Fire is located within the Sierra National Forest in Fresno County and is approximately seven miles north of Big Creek. It is currently burning off Stump Springs Road, north of Aspen Springs. The South Central Sierra Interagency Incident Management Team is in command of the Aspen Fire.
- Clouds moved into the fire area last night which caused good relative humidity recovery. These recoveries assisted with the fire suppression, but the inversion layer increased smoke accumulation in the low laying areas and especially, in the Huntington Lake area.
- Recreation and businesses remain open in the Shaver Lake, Big Creek, Huntington Lake, Lake Thomas Edison, Florence Lake and Mono Hot Springs on the Sierra National Forest. June Lake, Mammoth Lakes, and Rock Creek areas remain open on the Inyo National Forest.

Fire Update

- Firefighter and public safety remains the highest priority.
- Last night, crews successfully utilized firing operations near Stump Springs Road to strengthen the southernmost edge of the fire, between Stump Springs Road and the San Joaquin River. The large column of smoke, seen near Huntington Lake, was from the firing operation. Crews continued mopping up 100 to 200 feet along the fires perimeter, where it is safe to do so. Fire crews are using Minimal Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) along the fires edge, burning in the Kaiser Wilderness.
- Resource advisors are working with suppression crews on rehabilitation and fire suppression repair efforts of fire lines within the fires perimeter. The objective of fire suppression repair is to prevent the use of fire lines as trails which may cause confusion with correct route finding. Repair also helps minimize erosion and sediment movement on and around the fire line. As crews continue to gain containment of the Aspen Fire, rehabilitation will become a high priority.

(More)

- Smoke from the Aspen Fire continues to impact air quality in local communities. Crews will utilize firing operations over the next few days to assist with enforcing containment lines. Firing operations are actions taken to remove unburned fuels between the active fire line and the contingency lines which fire crews have been creating over the past several days. The operation will put additional smoke into the atmosphere. Fire crews are also being sensitive to environmental and cultural resources in and around the fire area.

An air quality monitoring device has been installed at the Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Station. The device will provide smoke data from the Aspen Fire to the air resource advisor and the area air pollution control districts.

Individuals sensitive to smoke are advised to remain indoors and keep windows closed to minimize exposure to smoke. For more information regarding smoke visit: www.valleyair.org

Road and Trail Closures

Roads:

Stump Springs Road is closed to all traffic due to fire suppression activity. Minarets Road (4S81) from Fish Creek to Jackass Rock Organization Campground, Grizzly at Beasore Road to Minarets Road are closed to the public. Residents within the road closure are allowed into the area with valid identification.

Trails:

Per the U.S. Forest Service Closure Order Number 15-13-09, all trails within the Kaiser Wilderness are closed.

Closures

Campground closures within the Sierra National Forest are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sample Meadow | West Kaiser |
| Jackass Rock Organization | Lower Chiquito |
| Little Jackass | Soda Springs |
| Placer | Sweet Water |
| China Bar | Rock Creek |
| Mammoth Pool | Wagners Mammoth Pool Resort |
| Fish Creek | |

The following campgrounds are closed to house firefighters for suppression efforts:

Midge Creek, Badger Flat and Rancheria.

Cooperating agencies include

The U.S. Forest Service, National Parks Service, U.S. Department of Defense, National Weather Service, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fresno County Sheriff, Madera County Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Southern California Edison, PG&E, California Conservation Corp.

**For information, please contact Aspen Fire Information line at (559) 893-7018,
<http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3552/> or by following the Sierra National Forest Twitter
Account: @sierra_nf**